



The International Conference

Culturalization of Humanities

Perspectives and Experiences

Speakers and Program

20-21 of November, Beirut 2018

Humanities have provided humankind with a massive amount of theoretical and practical literature in the diverse domains of social sciences.

These disciplines have encountered an enormous sum of questions, challenges, and predicaments. Some of the problems lie in the intellectual and philosophical referentiality of those sciences, especially after the separation of science and religion and their institutions in Europe; for instance, August Comte (1857-1798) aspired to develop sociology into a “new religion.”

Other reasons pertain to the services which some of these disciplines have offered. For example, psychology has benefited company owners in the face of laborers, and anthropology has been in service for the occupation forces and the administration of the colonies.

The critical question that Humanities should answer today is: How has this vast amount of theoretical elaboration contributed to enhancing a more convenient vision and implementation in human life? Such a question arises at a time when social, economic, psychological, and moral issues are becoming more of serious problems, and the quality of individual and social life is declining and degrading to the lowest level.

Moreover, another crucial question directs our attention

toward the real anticipated advantages of the outputs and applied initiatives of those disciplines, in societies which have maintained a different cultural, intellectual, and spiritual framework than those of the Western societies.

Should Humanities suffice with utilizing certain methods and epistemes to understand, explain, and analyze transformations at the level of the individual or society, as Western Humanities have done? Or should they be critically reviewed with the purpose of coming up with new theories and methodologies that provide models of what is a necessary or possible state of human societies in the future? It should be noted that in our usage of the terms “necessary” or “possible” we rely upon thought structures, epistemological framework or ethical and religious system which endorses a specific concept of humans and how their future should be.

This specific thought, epistemological or ethical and religious contextualization of the human concept and its future applications is the meaning of ‘Culturalization of Humanities.’ Therefore, the methodological and epistemological bases of Western Humanities should not be the sole structures and methods for understanding humankind and society no matter how predominant and hegemonic Western Humanities might be.

Conference Program

The First Day: Tuesday, November 20/ 2018

Registration	8:30 – 9:00
Opening Ceremony	9:00 – 9:30
■ Quran Recitation ■ Lebanese National Anthem	
■ Speech of The President of Al Maaref University	Dr. Ali Alaeddine
■ Speech of The Conference's Coordinator	Dr. Talal Atrissi
Break	9:30 – 10:00
First Session: Western Humanities: Emergence and Dominance	10:00 – 11:30
Chair of Session: The President of Halab University	Dr. Mustafa Afiouni, Syria
■ The Intellectual, Philosophical and Social Dimensions of Western Humanities' Methodology	Dr. Hamid Reda Parsania, Iran
■ How have Western Humanities established Worldwide Dominance?	Dr. Saif Da'na, Palestine/USA
■ The Role of Universities in the Expansion and Perpetuation of this Western Dominance	Dr. C. K. Raju, India
Break + Prayers	11:30 – 12:00

Second Session: The Crisis of Western Humanities

12:00 – 13:30

Chair of Session: General Director of the Educational Studies and Research Center

Mr. Abdallah Kassir, Lebanon

- Whom does Humanities Serve: Humankind or Domination Purposes **Dr. AbdulHaleem Fadlallah, Lebanon**
- Which “Human Being” does Western Humanities Study? **Dr. Claude Alvares, India**
- Spiritless Humanities **Dr. Ahmad Hossein Sharifi, Iran**

Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:00

Third Session: Critique of Western Humanities

15:00– 16:30

Chair of Session: The Former President of Imam Sadiq(as) University

Dr. Mohammad S. M. Kani, Iran

- Critique of the Western Secularist Approach **Sh. Mohamad Zaraqet, Lebanon**
- Western Humanities: Are they Biased or Objective? **Dr. Amer Abd Zaid Waeli, Iraq**
- Humanities are Simply Theories and Not Sacred Principles. **Dr. Romdhane Barhoumi, Tunisia**

The Second Day: Wednesday, November 21/ 2018

Fourth Session: Culturalization Experiences

9:00 – 10:20

Chair of Session: The President of Omran University- Sanaa

Dr. Mohamad D. Alqatabri, Yaman

- The Iranian Experience (Islamization of Universities)
- The International Institute of Islamic Thought Experience
- The Turkish Experience

Dr. Mohammad S. Mehdavi Kani, Iran

Dr. Anwar AbuTaha, Palestine

Dr. Ibrahim PÜR, Turkey

Break

10:20 – 10:30

Fifth Session: Culturalization Experiences

10:30– 11:30

Chair of Session: The Coordinator of the
Decolonizing University Project.

Dr. Claude Alvares, India

- African Experience
- Southeastern Asia 's Experience

Dr. Lutuu Babuuzibwa, Uganda

Dr.Syd.FaridAlatas.Malizia/Singapore

Break + Prayers

11:30 – 12:00

Sixth Session: The Role of Universities in Culturalizing Education

12:00 – 13:30

Chair of Session: Director of Islamic Knowledge Society**Dr. Sh. Akram Barakat, Lebanon**

■ The Status of Humanities in the Arab Universities

Dr. Talal Atrissi, Lebanon

■ Educational Curricula at Universities and Culturalization

Dr. Mohamad D. Alqatabri, Yemen

■ Social Contribution of Humanities

Dr. Hajaj Abu Jabr, Egypt

Closing Ceremony

13:30 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00

Participant Researchers' Biographies



Dr. Hamid Reza Parsania / Iran

Dr. Hamid Reza Parsania holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from Tehran University and he's the Director of the Seminary Committee at the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution. Dr. Parsania is a Seminary and University Instructor and he teaches Jurisprudence & Legal Sources in addition to Islamic Mysticism and Philosophy at Qom Seminary. He has formerly served as the President of Baqer Al-'Ulum University in Qom and the Director of the Department of Sociology at the Imam Khomeini Educational and Research Institute; an associate member of education in the Higher Assembly of Wisdom, and a member of the Academic Board at the Department of Islamic Revolution Studies and Reconnaissance of the West as well as of the Research Center of Culture and Islamic Thought. Dr. Parsania has published several books on philosophy and sociology.



Dr. Seif Dana / Palestine- USA

Seif Dana is the Dean of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and Professor of Sociology and International Studies. In addition to research in the fields of social theory and sociology of the environment, he is the author of many articles and book chapters on the Palestine Issue and the Arab world, including: "The Mismeasure of Arabs: Culture and Revolution", (2011); "Hezbollah's War of Positions: The New Arab-Islamic Praxis", (2009); and "Islamic Resistance in Palestine: Hamas, the Gaza War and the Future of Political Islam", (2006). His forthcoming book is entitled "What is the Nakba?". In addition to his scholarly publications, he has published a number of commentaries on the Middle East in the Opinion Page of the Egyptian AL-Ahram Weekly as well as contributing to Palestinian Journals.



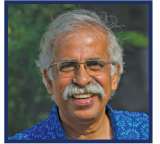
Dr. C.K. Raju / India

Dr. C. K. Raju holds a Ph.D. from the Indian Statistical Institute at Kolkata preceded by a M.Sc. in Math and a B.Sc. in Physics from Mumbai University. He has a long teaching experience in Mathematics and Computer Science in various universities in India and abroad and is currently Professor Emeritus at SGT University in Delhi. Dr. Raju has delivered lectures in six continents and is currently an Honorary Professor at the Indian Institute of Education. He has conducted courses on decolonized mathematics. He has also conducted decolonized courses in history and philosophy of science.



Dr. Abdul Halim Fadlallah / Lebanon

Dr. Fadlallah is the Director of the Consultative Center for Studies and Documentation. He is a researcher and a professor who teaches Economics in the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration in the Lebanese University. He published various books and studies on issues of poverty, development, reformation, globalization, and political economics. Furthermore, he submitted a number of working papers and research to specialized conferences held in Lebanon and abroad. As well, he participated in initiatives for social and economic dialogue initiatives and supervised many research projects.



Dr. Claude Alvares / India

Dr. Claude Alvares holds a Ph.D. from the Technische Hogeschool (Technical College) in the Netherlands. He coordinates the Multiversity Project which seeks to decolonize thinking and academic curricula in universities across the world. Dr. Alvares is best known for his book “Decolonizing History” and has also written and edited other books in addition to coordinating seven international conferences on redesigning non-Eurocentric curricula. Dr. Alvares occupied the position of Director of the Goa Foundation (an environmental action group) for 30 years and was formerly the Director of the Organic Farming Association of India. He is currently the editor of Other India Press and he contributed for several years to a wide variety of Indian newspapers and magazines including the Illustrated Weekly of India, India Today, Outlook, The Times of India, and others.



Dr. Ahmad Hussein Sharifi / Iran

A professor of Jurisprudence, Islamic Legal Sources, and Philosophy at Holy Qom Seminar. Is a member of several councils and committees including the Council of Humanities Planning at Imam Khomeini University for Education and Research, member of the Theorization Committee on Humanities at Holy Qom Seminary. Is the senior editor of several magazines specialized in ethics and humanities. Authored numerous academic features and twenty-nine books on Kalam Studies, philosophy of religion, ethics, humanities, epistemology, Islamic mysticism, and sociological and political sciences



Sheikh Muhammad Hassan Zaraket / Lebanon

Lecturer of Jurisprudence and Islamic Knowledge and Director of the Research Department at Al-Mustafa International University (MIU). He is also a Lecturer at Al -Maaref University (MU) and Saint Joseph University (USJ). Director of the Center of Civilization for the Development of Islamic Thought- Beirut. Authored tens of research papers and specialized studies on jurisprudence, philosophy, and Kalam studies (Speculative Theology). In addition to translation work on several Persian books on the subjects of philosophy, Kalam, jurisprudence, and contemporaneous religious thought.



Dr. Amer Abd Zayd Kadhim Al-Wa'eli / Iraq

Earned his Doctorate in Islamic and Christian Medieval Scholastic Philosophy. A Professor and Supervisor of Master's thesis and Ph.D. dissertations in the Philosophy Department at Al-Kufa University. A researcher, an author, and editor of tens of books. A writer of tens of research studies for refereed journals, and articles for some internet sites, and newspapers in Iraq and in many Arab countries. Attended and Participated in several local and international conferences.



Dr. Ramadan Al-Barhumi / Tunisia

Professor of Islamic Civilization and member of the research unit on Kalam (Speculative theology) Studies at the Higher Institute for Islamic Civilization at Al-Zaituna University. Holds a Ph.D. for and his dissertation was 'ISECO and Dialogue Strategies between Civilizations. A member of the Arabic Digital Language Association in Tunisia. Produced cultural and intellectual media programs for the Tunisian media. A researcher in the field of hermeneutics, the historicity of contemporary Arab thought, and the Ontology of dialogue between cultures and religions. Participated in several seminars, and academic and thought forums.



Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Saeed Mahdavi Kani / Iran

Sheikh Mohammad Saeed Mahdavi Kani holds a Ph.D. in Culture and Relations and is a Professor of Culture, Islamic Doctrine, and Ethics. He is the former Director of Imam Al-Sadeq University in Tehran. Dr. Mahdavi Kani is a member of the Academic Staff at the Council for Preaching and Religious Relations at Al-Maaref Islamic University. He is also the Editor of several quarterly academic journals among which is the journal of Religious Research and Relations and is a member of the editorial staff of the quarterly journal Religion and Media. Dr. Mahdavi Kani has written several publications and books on Islamic Thought and Culture and has a book entitled "Religion and the Mode of Living". He has also participated in many conferences and academic forums.



Dr. Anwar Abd Al-Hadi Abou Taha / Palestine- Lebanon

Earned his Ph.D. in Political Sociology from the Lebanese University. He is a specialized researcher in Islamic and Political Sociology. Member of the Board of Trustees of Al-Quds Institution and the National Islamic Convention, and the General Secretariat of Palestinian Writers and Journalists Union. Authored many books, technical publications, essays, and research papers on Political Islam, Islamic Movements, and 'Salafi Jihadism'. His book "Fighters of the Holy Land: The Origins and Ideology of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement from 1975 to 2020" will be published soon.



Dr. Ibrahim PÜR / Turkey

Professor Ibrahim PÜR is Vice Director at the School of Foreign Languages at Gazi University in the city of Ankara, Turkey. He commenced his teaching experience in 1986 and has taught English at Giresun and Ankara. He is also former Administrator at the School of Foreign Languages for Officials, and he lectured for ten years at Gazi University. Professor PÜR has participated in several seminars and conferences on topics ranging from Education in the Grip of Colonialism, the Effect of Imperialism on School Books and the Curriculum, Decolonizing Our Universities, the Effect of Globalization on Local Education, the Effect of Social Media on Education, and Training Teachers in an Islamic Sense.



Dr. Babuuzibwa Mukasa Luutu / Uganda

Professor B.M. Luutu is the Vice-Chancellor of Marcus Garvey Pan-Afrikan University (MPAU) in Uganda, an Executive Director of Marcus Garvey Pan-Afrikan Research Institute, and a Distinguished Fellow of the DST/NRF Research Chair in Development Education based at the University of South Africa (UNISA). Much of Professor Luutu's work is devoted to MPAU's mission of re-centering African communities in the reactivation and utilisation of indigenous knowledge heritages to deal with issues of conflict resolution, restorative justice and governance, economic self-emancipation, defence of the commons, cross-border solidarities and global cross-cultural understanding. As well, he contributed to research and work initiatives with Canadian and United Nation organization focused on issues of reconciliation, peace, post-war recovery and development in different African regions.



Dr. Syed Farid Alatas / Malaysia-

Dr. Syed Farid Alatas holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from John Hopkins University. He is a Professor at the National University of Singapore/ Department of Sociology. He has taught at the University of Malaya, Stamford College, and the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies at Nanyang Technological University. Dr. Alatas is a member of the Malaysian Social Science Association, the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, the Indian Sociological Society, and the Arab Sociological Association. He is also a member of the Panel of Advisors at the Academy of Social Sciences in Malaysia. Dr. Alatas has participated in several conferences and seminar presentations. He has also authored dozens of books such as "An Islamic Commitment to Inter-Religious Dialogue" and has written articles in journal issues in addition to composing encyclopaedia entries, working papers, and book reviews.



Dr. Talal Atrisi / Lebanon

Earned his Ph.D. in Sociology from Sorbonne University. Currently, He's the Scientific and Academic Consultant at Al Maaref University. He is an instructor at the lebanese Army Academy for command and General staff. Former Dean of Doctoral school of Literature, Humanities & Social Sciences at the Lebanese University. Former Director of the Center for Strategic Studies –Beirut. Has published academic writings and specialized research papers in Arab and International periodicals and journals in the fields of psychology, sociology, Islamic Culture, and politics. Participated in local, regional, and international conferences on social, cultural, and political issues in the Arabic and Islamic societies.



Dr. Muhammad DayfuAllah Ali Al-Qatabri / Yemen

Earned his Ph.D. in Economics and Banking and Financial Sciences from Assiut University, Egypt. A Professor at various Arab and Yemeni universities in the fields of Management, Financial and Banking Mathematics, Monetary Administration of Banks, and Monetary and Banking Economics. Currently, is the President of Imran University in Sana'a, Yemen. A previous General Manager of Industry and Trade; and a member of the Founding Committee of Sa'dah University in Sa'dah Province. Participated in tens of conferences and seminars internationally and within the Arab world.



Dr. Hajjaj Abou Jabr / Egypt

Assistant professor in critical theory at the Academy of Arts in Egypt. He had post-doctoral research at the Berlin Institute for Advanced Studies, Humboldt University in Berlin, University of Bonn, and Martin Luther University. He is the author of 'Mapping the Secular Mind' (in Arabic, English, and Turkish). He has translated for the renowned Polish Sociologist and Philosopher Zygmunt Bauman's 'Modernity and the Holocaust', as well as his published liquid series ('Liquid Modernity', 'Liquid Times', and 'Liquid Love').